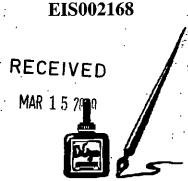
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Pebruary 1, 2000



U.S. DEPT/ENERGY (DOE)
Mr. Terry Lash, Director
of Nuclear Energy, Science
& Technology
1000 Independence Ave, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Lash:

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I am enclosing a copy of an article appearing in THE BRYAN TIMES, on Saturday, January 29, 2000, regarding transporting hazardous nuclear waste through Ohio.

Where is waste from Cleveland and the East Coast currently being shipped?

I am aware that there are more states besides Ohio to be travelled in order to get the waste to Nevada. Will the public be notified when hazardous waste is to travel through it's community? Or, will a small sign on a truck or rail car indicate that hazardous waste is onboard?

What are the risks of shipping spent nuclear fuel via populated areas? What are the health (or life 6 death) issues involved in a radioactive release brought about by an accident during transportation to the "dump?"

Here in the Bryan area we have had several derailments in the past 5 years, one involving fire. What would happen to the nuclear waste, and our communities, if fire was involved in an accident?

I think our bigger problem is the waste itself, not just whether it can safely be transported via populated areas. What will happen 200 years from now when our descendents tap into this waste dump in the Newada desert?

We are setting up horrible situations for future citizens of this country.

Alternate means of producing energy need to be researched and developed so this issue will be come a "non-issue."

Naturally, I am not in favor of nuclear waste travelling through our community. Can we sleep better at night knowing we are safe and secure in our own homes? | What solutions did your 6-month series of 20 hearings produce?

A concerned citizen in Williams County, Ohio,

Caroly m. Speaker

2—The Bryan Times, Saturday, January 29, 2000

hio on crossroads for hipping nuclear was

By THOMAS J. SHEERAN Associated Press Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) - Ohio would get to ship its spent nuclear plant fuel 2.000 miles written comments until Feb. 9. U.S. Department of Energy pro- on the proposal for shipping posal.

But the state's location would make Ohio the crossroads for inuch of the East Coast's nuclear ground Yucca Mountain vault tion over trucking but not rail doing it (shipping nuclear 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas, shipping, said it wouldn't The risk of shipping nuclear fuel, sometimes daily, was the shipping routes over the objecfocus of a DOE hearing Friday tions of local communities.

day in Chicago.

to the Nevada desert as part of a is collecting public comments lethal waste, she said. spent nuclear fuel to the mountain from power plants and gov- consultant, said the industry ernment weapons plants.

The Public Utilities Commiswaste also destined for the under- sion of Ohio, which has jurisdicapprove any nuclear waste

in addition. Alfred.P. Agler with the PUCO's transportation department said the agency wouldn't approve any shipping plan that serves to export the risk to other nisms are well in place nationalcommunities or states."

Amy Ryder, Cleveland area director of Ohio Citizen Action, nuclear wasic by rail and truck across Ohio, mainly along the pose a safety risk.

This plan clearly benefits the nuclear industry while putting the safety of millions of citizens at risk," she said.

Chris Trepal, executive direc-Cleveland, said DOE was loosen- shipment every five or six days.

in Cleveland. The six-month ing safety standards in proposing series of 20 hearings ends Tues- the Yucra Mountain repository. They can't change the rules this The agency, which will accept late in the game, particularly when they're dealing with such

Robert M. Jefferson, an Albuquerque: N.M., nuclear industry has a sale shipping record and 'no accident has ever led to a radioactive release. We've been waste) for 30 years," he said.

Vernon Hagaki, supervisor of emergency planning at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant located 25 miles northeast of Cleveland. agreed that nuclear waste can be shipped safely.

We believe that the mechaly and in Ohio to provide reasonable assurance to Ohio's residents that spent fuel shipments told the DOE that shipping of crossing this state can and will be safely accomplished." he said.

The proposed shipping routes Interstate 80 corridor, would haven't been finalized. Yucca Mountain project spokeswoman Gayle Fisher said.

She said up to nine shipments weekly could go through Ohio. mostly by truck. If trains primarily are used, there could be two train lor for the Earth Day Coalition in shipments weekly and one truck